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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/029,178

Applicant(s)

KURODA, KAZUO

Examiner

MARC DAZENSKI

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 17 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 December 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1-30-2004
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because in Figure 3, objects (13) and (19), the word "generating" is misspelled as "generatiang." Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and

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informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 2, the word "comprises" is misspelled as "comprries." Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 17 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim can refer to other claims in the alternative only. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claim has not been further treated on the merits.

Claim 20 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 6, the word "delivered" is misspelled as "delieved." Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3, 19, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamada (US Patent 6,370,316), hereinafter referred to as Yamada.

Regarding **claim 1**, Yamada discloses an apparatus for retrieving and administrating moving pictures and related network system. In addition, Yamada discloses a moving picture administrating apparatus, which reads on the claimed, "an AV information delivery device," as disclosed at column 6, line 26 and exhibited in figure 1; the apparatus comprising:

video data storing section (101) which stores video files (121), which reads on the claimed, "a storage section for storing AV information including at least one of voice information and video information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 26-28;

scene producing section (102) which allocates a scene number to each of the segmented scenes and produces a representative frame by picking up a representative screen image from each scene, which reads on the claimed, "an abstracting section for abstracting at least a part of the stored AV information, and generating abstraction information indicative of contents of the AV information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 34-38; and

scene producing section (102) which sends an index file (122) to index storing section (103), which reads on the claimed, "a delivery section for delivering the generated abstraction information together with the AV information having the contents indicated by the abstraction information," as disclosed at column 7, lines 62-67.

Regarding **claim 3**, Yamada discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1). In addition Yamada discloses scene producing section (102) which produces a representative frame by picking up a representative screen image from each scene, which reads on the claimed, "wherein the abstracting section generates pattern data

having a waveform featuring the video information as the abstraction information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 34-38.

Regarding **claim 19**, Yamada discloses an apparatus for retrieving and administrating moving pictures and related network system. In addition, Yamada discloses a moving picture administrating apparatus, which reads on the claimed, "An AV information delivery method," as disclosed at column 6, line 26 and exhibited in figure 1; the apparatus comprising:

scene producing section (102) which allocates a scene number to each of the segmented scenes and produces a representative frame by picking up a representative screen image from each scene, which reads on the claimed, "abstracting at least a part of AV information including at least one of voice information and video information; generating abstraction information indicative of contents of the AV information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 34-38; and

scene producing section (102) which sends an index file (122) to index storing section (103), which reads on the claimed, "delivering the generated abstraction information together with the AV information having the contents indicated by the abstraction information," as disclosed at column 7, lines 62-67.

Regarding **claim 30**, the limitations of the claim are rejected in view of the explanation set forth in claim 19 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, further in view of Wactlar et al (US Patent 5,835,667), hereinafter referred to as Wactlar.

Regarding **claim 2**, Yamada discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1). However, Yamada fails to disclose wherein the abstracting section generates a data string indicative of a voice or sound included in the voice information as the abstraction information. However the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include wherein the abstracting section generates a data string indicative of a voice or sound included in the voice information as the abstraction information, as taught by Wactlar.

In a similar field of endeavor, Wactlar discloses a method and apparatus for creating a searchable digital video library and a system and method of using such a library. Wactlar further discloses an audio transcription portion of the audio transcription and time stamping function (27) operating on a digitized version of the audio data (18) using known techniques in automated speech recognition to transcribe the narratives and dialogues automatically, where the best scoring output is output from the audio transcription function, which reads on the claimed, " wherein the abstracting section generates a data string indicative of a voice or sound included in the voice information

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as the abstraction information," as disclosed at column 7, lines 43-48, and column 8, lines 27-53.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus for retrieving and administrating moving pictures and related network system of Yamada to include an audio transcription portion of the audio transcription and time stamping function (27) operating on a digitized version of the audio data (18) using known techniques in automated speech recognition to transcribe the narratives and dialogues automatically, where the best scoring output is output from the audio transcription function, as taught by Wactlar, for the purpose of enabling a more comprehensive and accurate search by providing abstracts of audio data in addition to video data.

Claims 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, further in view of Kambayashi (US Patent 6,157,809), hereinafter referred to as Kambayashi.

Regarding **claim 4**, Yamada discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1). However, Yamada fails to disclose wherein the delivery section delivers the generated abstraction information with an inclusion in a separate information unit from an information unit, the information unit including the AV information having the contents indicated by the abstraction information. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include wherein the delivery section delivers the generated abstraction information with an inclusion in a separate information unit from an

information unit, the information unit including the AV information having the contents indicated by the abstraction information, as taught by Kambayashi.

In a similar field of endeavor, Kambayashi discloses a broadcasting system, broadcast receiving unit, and recording medium used in the broadcasting system. Kambayashi further discloses a sub-video signal being added to that of the main picture, the sub-video signal is multiplexed with part of a vertical blanking period, which is a time interval in the main video signal, in the form of a digital signal in the broadcasting unit, and then distributed, which reads on the claimed, "wherein the delivery section delivers the generated abstraction information with an inclusion in a separate information unit from an information unit, the information unit including the AV information having the contents indicated by the abstraction information," as disclosed at column 11, lines 54-61.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus for retrieving and administrating moving pictures and related network system of Yamada to include a sub-video signal being added to that of the main picture, the sub-video signal is multiplexed with part of a vertical blanking period, which is a time interval in the main video signal, in the form of a digital signal in the broadcasting unit, and then distributed, as taught by Kambayashi, for the purpose of transmitting additional information within the same transport stream as the main data.

Regarding **claim 5**, the limitations for the claim are rejected in view of the rationale set forth in claim 4 above.

Regarding **claim 6**, the limitations for the claim are rejected in view of the rationale set forth in claim 4 above.

Regarding **claim 7**, the limitations for the claim are rejected in view of the rationale set forth in claim 4 above.

Claims 8, 9, 18, and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, in view of Kunieda et al (US Patent 7,277,621), hereinafter referred to as Kunieda.

Regarding **claim 8**, Yamada discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1). Yamada further discloses a moving picture administrating apparatus, which reads on the claimed, "an AV information retrieving device retrieving the AV information in the data base in the AV information delivery device according to claim 1 by using retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 6, line 26 and exhibited in figure 1; the apparatus comprising:

title selecting section (109) which selects one of the candidate titles displayed by the display section (104) in accordance with a user's instruction, which reads on the claimed, "an acquiring section for acquiring the abstraction information delivered and the AV information delivered ," as disclosed at column 13, lines 29-31;

input section (105) operated by a user by entering a character string (i.e., retrieval key) representing the contents which the user wants to search, which reads on the claimed, "an input section for inputting the retrieval key information ," as disclosed at column 13, line 18-20; and

title display section (902) retrieves the information stored in the database section (901) to find out candidate titles relevant to the character string entered through the input section (105), which reads on the claimed, "a retrieving section for retrieving the delivered abstraction information which is similar to the generated abstraction key information," as disclosed at column 13, lines 18-25. Yamada, however, fails to disclose an abstracting section for abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include an abstracting section for abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information, as taught by Kunieda.

In a similar field of endeavor, Kunieda discloses a Recording medium with video index information recorded therein video information management method which uses the video index information, recording medium with audio index information recorded therein, audio information management method which uses the audio index information, video retrieval method which uses video index information, audio retrieval method which uses the audio index information and a video retrieval system. Kunieda further discloses retrieval device (704) that identifies retrieval information coincident to or similar to the retrieval conditions using various types of retrieval information in the retrieval information delivery file (703) and other information relating to the former information, which reads on the claimed, "an abstracting section for abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information," as disclosed at column 34, lines 27-31.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus for retrieving and administrating moving pictures and related network system of Yamada to include retrieval device (704) that identifies retrieval information coincident to or similar to the retrieval conditions using various types of retrieval information in the retrieval information delivery file (703) and other information relating to the former information, as taught by Kunieda, for the purpose of enhancing a search operation by retrieving multiple results associated with a single keyword.

Regarding **claim 9**, Yamada discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 8). In addition Yamada discloses a display section (104) that displays the representative frames, index titles, and moving images, which reads on the claimed, "further comprising an output section for outputting the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information retrieved by the retrieving section as the AV information corresponding to the retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 49-50.

Regarding **claim 18**, Yamada discloses an apparatus for retrieving and administrating moving pictures and related network system. In addition, Yamada discloses a moving picture administrating apparatus, which reads on the claimed, "An AV information delivery retrieving system comprising: an AV information delivery device; and an AV information retrieving device," as disclosed at column 6, line 26 and exhibited in figure 1; the apparatus comprising:

video data storing section (101) which stores video files (121), which reads on the claimed, "a storage section for storing AV information including at least one of voice information and video information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 26-28;

scene producing section (102) which allocates a scene number to each of the segmented scenes and produces a representative frame by picking up a representative screen image from each scene, which reads on the claimed, "an abstracting section for abstracting at least a part of the stored AV information, and generating abstraction information indicative of contents of the AV information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 34-38; and

scene producing section (102) which sends an index file (122) to index storing section (103), which reads on the claimed, "a delivery section for delivering the generated abstraction information together with the AV information having the contents indicated by the abstraction information," as disclosed at column 7, lines 62-67;

a moving picture administrating apparatus, which reads on the claimed, "wherein the AV information retrieving device retrieves the AV information in the data base in the AV information delivery device by using retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 6, line 26 and exhibited in figure 1; the apparatus comprising:

title selecting section (109) which selects one of the candidate titles displayed by the display section (104) in accordance with a user's instruction, which reads on the claimed, "an acquiring section for acquiring the abstraction information delivered and the AV information delivered , " as disclosed at column 13, lines 29-31;

input section (105) operated by a user by entering a character string (i.e., retrieval key) representing the contents which the user wants to search, which reads on the claimed, "an input section for inputting the retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 13, line 18-20; and

title display section (902) retrieves the information stored in the database section (901) to find out candidate titles relevant to the character string entered through the input section (105), which reads on the claimed, "a retrieving section for retrieving the delivered abstraction information which is similar to the generated abstraction key information," as disclosed at column 13, lines 18-25. Yamada, however, fails to disclose an abstracting section for abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include an abstracting section for abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information, as taught by Kunieda.

In a similar field of endeavor, Kunieda discloses a recording medium with video index information recorded therein video information management method which uses the video index information, recording medium with audio index information recorded therein, audio information management method which uses the audio index information, video retrieval method which uses video index information, audio retrieval method which uses the audio index information and a video retrieval system. Kunieda further discloses retrieval device (704) that identifies retrieval information coincident to or similar to the retrieval conditions using various types of retrieval information in the retrieval information delivery file (703) and other information relating to the former

information, which reads on the claimed, "an abstracting section for abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information," as disclosed at column 34, lines 27-31.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus for retrieving and administrating moving pictures and related network system of Yamada to include retrieval device (704) that identifies retrieval information coincident to or similar to the retrieval conditions using various types of retrieval information in the retrieval information delivery file (703) and other information relating to the former information, as taught by Kunieda, for the purpose of enhancing a search operation by retrieving multiple results associated with a single keyword.

Regarding **claim 20**, Yamada discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 19). Yamada further discloses a moving picture administrating apparatus, which reads on the claimed, "an AV information retrieving method of retrieving the AV information delivered together with the abstraction information by the AV information delivery method according to claim 19 by using retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 6, line 26 and exhibited in figure 1; the apparatus comprising:

title selecting section (109) which selects one of the candidate titles displayed by the display section (104) in accordance with a user's instruction, which reads on the claimed, "acquiring the abstraction information delivered and the AV information delivered," as disclosed at column 13, lines 29-31;

input section (105) operated by a user by entering a character string (i.e., retrieval key) representing the contents which the user wants to search, which reads on the claimed, "inputting the retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 13, line 18-20; and

title display section (902) retrieves the information stored in the database section (901) to find out candidate titles relevant to the character string entered through the input section (105), which reads on the claimed, "retrieving the delivered abstraction information which is similar to the generated abstraction key information," as disclosed at column 13, lines 18-25. Yamada, however, fails to disclose an abstracting section for abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include an abstracting section for abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information, as taught by Kunieda.

In a similar field of endeavor, Kunieda discloses a Recording medium with video index information recorded therein video information management method which uses the video index information, recording medium with audio index information recorded therein, audio information management method which uses the audio index information, video retrieval method which uses video index information, audio retrieval method which uses the audio index information and a video retrieval system. Kunieda further discloses retrieval device (704) that identifies retrieval information coincident to or similar to the retrieval conditions using various types of retrieval information in the retrieval information delivery file (703) and other information relating to the former

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information, which reads on the claimed, "abstracting the retrieval key information thus input and generating abstraction key information," as disclosed at column 34, lines 27-31.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus for retrieving and administrating moving pictures and related network system of Yamada to include retrieval device (704) that identifies retrieval information coincident to or similar to the retrieval conditions using various types of retrieval information in the retrieval information delivery file (703) and other information relating to the former information, as taught by Kunieda, for the purpose of enhancing a search operation by retrieving multiple results associated with a single keyword.

Regarding **claim 21**, Yamada discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 20). In addition Yamada discloses a display section (104) that displays the representative frames, index titles, and moving images, which reads on the claimed, "further comprising an output step of outputting the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information retrieved at the retrieving step as the AV information corresponding to the retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 49-50.

Claims 10, 13-14, 22, 25-26, 29, 31-33, 36-37, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, in view of Kunieda, in view of Honda et al (US Patent 6,988,244), hereinafter referred to as Honda.

Regarding **claim 10**, the combination of Yamada and Kunieda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 8). The combination, however, fails to

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disclose a return section for returning, to the AV information delivery device, retrieval result information generated based on a retrieval result obtained by the retrieving section. The examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include a return section for returning, to the AV information delivery device, retrieval result information generated based on a retrieval result obtained by the retrieving section, as taught by Honda.

In a similar field of endeavor, Honda discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Honda further discloses a searching unit (92) that searches the database (91) on the basis of a given keyword in response to a request from the database searching unit (72) in the web server (3) and transmits the search result to the database searching unit (72), which reads on the claimed, "a return section for returning, to the AV information delivery device, retrieval result information generated based on a retrieval result obtained by the retrieving section," as disclosed at column 7, lines 54-60.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada and Kunieda to include a searching unit (92) that searches the database (91) on the basis of a given keyword in response to a request from the database searching unit (72) in the web server (3) and transmits the search result to the database searching unit (72), as taught by Honda, for the purpose of communicating search results to a user in response to retrieval key information.

Regarding **claim 13**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 10). In addition Yamada discloses a

database section (901) that registers the keywords thus given by a user so that the retrieving operation can be performed by utilizing the registered keywords in addition to the index titles, which reads on the claimed, "a data base for storing the retrieval result information returned from the AV information retrieving device according to claim 10," as disclosed at column 13, lines 61-64.

Regarding **claim 14**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 13). Further, Honda discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Honda further discloses a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), which reads on the claimed, "the data base stores the retrieval key information, the content identification data and at least one of the address information and the time information correspondingly to each other," as disclosed at column 4, lines 13-14 (where the claimed "retrieval key information, the content identification data and at least one of the address information and the time information" is included in the disclosed "data which is related to the moving picture").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda to include a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), as taught by Honda, for the purpose of enabling the creation of an index of moving picture information based upon keywords.

Regarding **claim 22**, the combination of Yamada and Kunieda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 20). The combination, however, fails to

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disclose a return step of returning retrieval result information generated based on a retrieval result obtained at the retrieving step. The examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include a return step of returning retrieval result information generated based on a retrieval result obtained at the retrieving step, as taught by Honda.

In a similar field of endeavor, Honda discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Honda further discloses a searching unit (92) that searches the database (91) on the basis of a given keyword in response to a request from the database searching unit (72) in the web server (3) and transmits the search result to the database searching unit (72), which reads on the claimed, "a return step of returning retrieval result information generated based on a retrieval result obtained at the retrieving step," as disclosed at column 7, lines 54-60.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada and Kunieda to include a searching unit (92) that searches the database (91) on the basis of a given keyword in response to a request from the database searching unit (72) in the web server (3) and transmits the search result to the database searching unit (72), as taught by Honda, for the purpose of communicating search results to a user in response to retrieval key information.

Regarding **claim 25**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 22). In addition Yamada discloses a database section (901) that registers the keywords thus given by a user so that the

retrieving operation can be performed by utilizing the registered keywords in addition to the index titles, which reads on the claimed, "a data base step of storing the retrieval result information returned from the AV information retrieving method according to claim 22," as disclosed at column 13, lines 61-64.

Regarding **claim 26**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 25). Further, Honda discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Honda further discloses a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), which reads on the claimed, "the retrieval key information, the content identification data and at least one of the address information and the time information are stored correspondingly to each other at the data base step," as disclosed at column 4, lines 13-14 (where the claimed "retrieval key information, the content identification data and at least one of the address information and the time information" is included in the disclosed "data which is related to the moving picture").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda to include a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), as taught by Honda, for the purpose of enabling the creation of an index of moving picture information based upon keywords.

Regarding **claim 29**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 25). In addition, Yamada discloses a moving picture administrating apparatus, which reads on the claimed, "an AV

information retrieving method of retrieving the AV information stored by the AV information delivery method according to claim 25 by using data base retrieval information," as disclosed at column 6, line 26 and exhibited in figure 1; the method comprising:

input section (105) operated by a user by entering a character string (i.e., retrieval key) representing the contents which the user wants to search, which reads on the claimed, "inputting the data base retrieval information," as disclosed at column 13, line 18-20; and

title display section (902) retrieves the information stored in the database section (901) to find out candidate titles relevant to the character string entered through the input section (105), which reads on the claimed, "retrieving an inside of the data base by using the input database retrieval information and retrieving the AV information corresponding to the input data base retrieval information," as disclosed at column 13, lines 18-25; and

a display section (104) that displays the representative frames, index titles, and moving images, which reads on the claimed, "outputting the retrieved AV information as the AV information corresponding to the data base retrieval information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 49-50.

Regarding **claim 31**, the combination of Yamada and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 29). Yamada further discloses a moving picture administrating apparatus, which reads on the claimed, "An information recording medium recording an AV information retrieval program to be readable through

a retrieving computer included in an AV information retrieving device for retrieving, by using retrieval key information, the AV information delivered together with the abstraction information through the AV information delivery device according to claim 29, wherein the retrieving computer is caused to process the program comprising," as disclosed at column 6, line 26 and exhibited in figure 1; the apparatus comprising:

title selecting section (109) which selects one of the candidate titles displayed by the display section (104) in accordance with a user's instruction, which reads on the claimed, "acquiring the abstraction information and the AV information delivered ," as disclosed at column 13, lines 29-31;

input section (105) operated by a user by entering a character string (i.e., retrieval key) representing the contents which the user wants to search, which reads on the claimed, "inputting the retrieval key information ," as disclosed at column 13, line 18-20; and

title display section (902) retrieves the information stored in the database section (901) to find out candidate titles relevant to the character string entered through the input section (105), which reads on the claimed, "retrieving the delivered abstraction information which is similar to the generated abstraction key information," as disclosed at column 13, lines 18-25. The combination of Yamada and Honda, however, fails to disclose abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include abstracting the retrieval key information inputted and generating abstraction key information, as taught by Kunieda.

In a similar field of endeavor, Kunieda discloses a recording medium with video index information recorded therein video information management method which uses the video index information, recording medium with audio index information recorded therein, audio information management method which uses the audio index information, video retrieval method which uses video index information, audio retrieval method which uses the audio index information and a video retrieval system. Kunieda further discloses retrieval device (704) that identifies retrieval information coincident to or similar to the retrieval conditions using various types of retrieval information in the retrieval information delivery file (703) and other information relating to the former information, which reads on the claimed, "abstracting the retrieval key information inputted; generating abstraction key information," as disclosed at column 34, lines 27-31.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada and Honda to include retrieval device (704) that identifies retrieval information coincident to or similar to the retrieval conditions using various types of retrieval information in the retrieval information delivery file (703) and other information relating to the former information, as taught by Kunieda, for the purpose of enhancing a search operation by retrieving multiple results associated with a single keyword.

Regarding **claim 32**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 31). In addition Yamada discloses a display section (104) that displays the representative frames, index titles, and moving

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images, which reads on the claimed, "outputting, as the AV information corresponding to the retrieval key information, the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information retrieved by the retrieving computer functioning as the retrieving step," as disclosed at column 6, lines 49-50.

Regarding **claim 33**, the combination of Yamada and Kunieda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 31). The combination, however, fails to disclose returning retrieval result information generated based on a retrieval result in the retrieving computer functioning as the retrieving section to the AV information delivery device. The examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include returning retrieval result information generated based on a retrieval result in the retrieving computer functioning as the retrieving section to the AV information delivery device, as taught by Honda.

In a similar field of endeavor, Honda discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Honda further discloses a searching unit (92) that searches the database (91) on the basis of a given keyword in response to a request from the database searching unit (72) in the web server (3) and transmits the search result to the database searching unit (72), which reads on the claimed, "returning retrieval result information generated based on a retrieval result in the retrieving computer functioning as the retrieving section to the AV information delivery device," as disclosed at column 7, lines 54-60.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada and Kunieda to

include a searching unit (92) that searches the database (91) on the basis of a given keyword in response to a request from the database searching unit (72) in the web server (3) and transmits the search result to the database searching unit (72), as taught by Honda, for the purpose of communicating search results to a user in response to retrieval key information.

Regarding **claim 36**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 33). In addition Yamada discloses a database section (901) that registers the keywords thus given by a user so that the retrieving operation can be performed by utilizing the registered keywords in addition to the index titles, which reads on the claimed, "storing the retrieval result information returned from the AV information retrieving device according to claim 33," as disclosed at column 13, lines 61-64.

Regarding **claim 37**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 36). Further, Honda discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Honda further discloses a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), which reads on the claimed, "the retrieval key information, the content identification data and at least one of the address information and the time information are stored correspondingly to each other at the data base step," as disclosed at column 4, lines 13-14 (where the claimed "retrieval key information, the content identification data and at least one of the address information and the time information" is included in the disclosed "data which is related to the moving picture").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda to include a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), as taught by Honda, for the purpose of enabling the creation of an index of moving picture information based upon keywords.

Regarding **claim 40**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 36). In addition, Yamada discloses a moving picture administrating apparatus, which reads on the claimed, "An information recording medium recording an AV information retrieval program to be readable through a retrieving computer in an AV information retrieving device for retrieving the AV information stored in the AV information delivery device according to claim 36 by using data base retrieval information, wherein the retrieving computer is caused to process the program comprising," as disclosed at column 6, line 26 and exhibited in figure 1; the method comprising:

input section (105) operated by a user by entering a character string (i.e., retrieval key) representing the contents which the user wants to search, which reads on the claimed, "inputting the data base retrieval information," as disclosed at column 13, line 18-20; and

title display section (902) retrieves the information stored in the database section (901) to find out candidate titles relevant to the character string entered through the input section (105), which reads on the claimed, "retrieving an inside of the data base by using the input database retrieval information and retrieving the AV information

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corresponding to the input data base retrieval information," as disclosed at column 13, lines 18-25; and

a display section (104) that displays the representative frames, index titles, and moving images, which reads on the claimed, "outputting the retrieved AV information as the AV information corresponding to the data base retrieval information," as disclosed at column 6, lines 49-50.

Claims 11, 23, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, in view of Kunieda, in view of Honda, further in view of Omata et al (US Patent 5,982,979), hereinafter referred to as Omata.

Regarding **claim 11**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 10). However, the combination fails to disclose wherein the retrieval result information comprises: the retrieval key information; content identification data for specifying contents including at least the abstraction information set to be similar to the retrieval key information by the retrieving section and the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information; and at least one of address information and time information which indicate a portion similar to the retrieval key information in the contents. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include wherein the retrieval result information comprises: the retrieval key information; content identification data for specifying contents including at least the abstraction information set to be similar to the retrieval key information by the retrieving section and the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information;

and at least one of address information and time information which indicate a portion similar to the retrieval key information in the contents, as taught by Omata.

In a similar field of endeavor, Omata discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Omata further discloses a resultant output of video retrieval control program (13), which reads on the claimed, "retrieval result information," as disclosed at column 4, line 9; the output comprising:

retrieval keys, which reads on the claimed, "the retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 4, lines 59-67;

file ID (111) of the sort record (101) corresponding to the sort selected by the user, which reads on the claimed, "content identification data for specifying contents including at least the abstraction information set to be similar to the retrieval key information by the retrieving section and the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information," as disclosed at column 4, lines 18-19; and

information indicating the temporal position of such content-grasping still pictures in the video, which reads on the claimed, "at least one of address information and time information which indicate a portion similar to the retrieval key information in the contents," as disclosed at column 4, lines 62-64.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus of Yamada to include a resultant output of video retrieval control program (13), retrieval keys, file ID (111) of the sort record (101) corresponding to the sort selected by the user, and information indicating the temporal position of such content-grasping still pictures in the video, as taught by

Omata, for the purpose of confirming the content of the video with enhanced facility in comparison with the conventional retrieval method based merely on character strings added to the video.

Regarding **claim 23**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 22). The combination, however, fails to disclose wherein the retrieval result information comprises: the retrieval key information; content identification data for specifying contents including at least the abstraction information set to be similar to the retrieval key information by the retrieving section and the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information; and at least one of address information and time information which indicate a portion similar to the retrieval key information in the contents. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include wherein the retrieval result information comprises: the retrieval key information; content identification data for specifying contents including at least the abstraction information set to be similar to the retrieval key information by the retrieving section and the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information; and at least one of address information and time information which indicate a portion similar to the retrieval key information in the contents, as taught by Omata.

In a similar field of endeavor, Omata discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Omata further discloses a resultant output of video retrieval control program (13), which reads on the claimed, "retrieval result information," as disclosed at column 4, line 9; the output comprising:

retrieval keys, which reads on the claimed, "the retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 4, lines 59-67;

file ID (111) of the sort record (101) corresponding to the sort selected by the user, which reads on the claimed, "content identification data for specifying contents including at least the abstraction information set to be similar to the retrieval key information by the retrieving section and the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information," as disclosed at column 4, lines 18-19; and

information indicating the temporal position of such content-grasping still pictures in the video, which reads on the claimed, "at least one of address information and time information which indicate a portion similar to the retrieval key information in the contents," as disclosed at column 4, lines 62-64.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus of Yamada to include a resultant output of video retrieval control program (13), retrieval keys, file ID (111) of the sort record (101) corresponding to the sort selected by the user, and information indicating the temporal position of such content-grasping still pictures in the video, as taught by Omata, for the purpose of confirming the content of the video with enhanced facility in comparison with the conventional retrieval method based merely on character strings added to the video.

Regarding **claim 34**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 33). The combination, however, fails to disclose wherein the retrieval result information comprises: the retrieval key information;

content identification data for specifying contents including at least the abstraction information set to be similar to the retrieval key information by the retrieving section and the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information; and at least one of address information and time information which indicate a portion similar to the retrieval key information in the contents. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include wherein the retrieval result information comprises: the retrieval key information; content identification data for specifying contents including at least the abstraction information set to be similar to the retrieval key information by the retrieving section and the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information; and at least one of address information and time information which indicate a portion similar to the retrieval key information in the contents, as taught by Omata.

In a similar field of endeavor, Omata discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Omata further discloses a resultant output of video retrieval control program (13), which reads on the claimed, "retrieval result information," as disclosed at column 4, line 9; the output comprising:

retrieval keys, which reads on the claimed, "the retrieval key information," as disclosed at column 4, lines 59-67;

file ID (111) of the sort record (101) corresponding to the sort selected by the user, which reads on the claimed, "content identification data for specifying contents including at least the abstraction information set to be similar to the retrieval key information by the retrieving section and the AV information corresponding to the abstraction information," as disclosed at column 4, lines 18-19; and

information indicating the temporal position of such content-grasping still pictures in the video, which reads on the claimed, "at least one of address information and time information which indicate a portion similar to the retrieval key information in the contents," as disclosed at column 4, lines 62-64.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus of Yamada to include a resultant output of video retrieval control program (13), retrieval keys, file ID (111) of the sort record (101) corresponding to the sort selected by the user, and information indicating the temporal position of such content-grasping still pictures in the video, as taught by Omata, for the purpose of confirming the content of the video with enhanced facility in comparison with the conventional retrieval method based merely on character strings added to the video.

Claims 12, 15, 24, 27, 35, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, in view of Kunieda, in view of Honda, further in view of Moriya et al (US Patent 7,031,965), hereinafter referred to as Moriya.

Regarding **claim 12**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 10). However, the combination fails to disclose a network retrieving section for retrieving network information present on a network which corresponds to the retrieval key information, wherein the network information retrieved is included in the retrieval result information and returned to the AV information delivery device through the return section. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include a network retrieving section for

retrieving network information present on a network which corresponds to the retrieval key information, wherein the network information retrieved is included in the retrieval result information and returned to the AV information delivery device through the return section, as taught by Moriya.

In a similar field of endeavor, Moriya discloses an image retrieving and delivering system and image retrieving and delivering method. Specifically, Moriya discloses a terminal obtaining unit (8) where the information of a user terminal, in which the image data obtained as the retrieval result is to be received, is obtained, and the terminal information is transmitted simultaneously with the transmission of the retrieval condition and is obtained in the image retrieving and delivering unit (5) through the input control unit (6), which reads on the claimed, "a network retrieving section for retrieving network information present on a network which corresponds to the retrieval key information, wherein the network information retrieved is included in the retrieval result information and returned to the AV information delivery device through the return section," as disclosed at column 8, lines 29-35.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda to include a terminal obtaining unit (8) where the information of a user terminal, in which the image data obtained as the retrieval result is to be received, is obtained, and the terminal information is transmitted simultaneously with the transmission of the retrieval condition and is obtained in the image retrieving and delivering unit (5) through

the input control unit (6), as taught by Moriya, for the purpose of using the user terminal information as a delivery condition for delivering the retrieval result.

Regarding **claim 15**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Moriya discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 12). Further, Honda discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Honda further discloses a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), which reads on the claimed, "a data base for storing the retrieval key information, the content identification data, at least one of the address information and the time information and the network information which are included in the retrieval result information returned from the AV information retrieving device according to claim 12 correspondingly to each other," as disclosed at column 4, lines 13-14 (where the claimed "retrieval key information, the content identification data and at least one of the address information and the time information" is included in the disclosed "data which is related to the moving picture").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Moriya to include a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), as taught by Honda, for the purpose of enabling the creation of an index of moving picture information based upon keywords.

Regarding **claim 24**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 22). However, the combination fails to

disclose a network retrieving step of retrieving network information present on a network which corresponds to the retrieval key information, the network information thus retrieved being included in the retrieval result information and being returned at the returning step. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include a network retrieving step of retrieving network information present on a network which corresponds to the retrieval key information, the network information thus retrieved being included in the retrieval result information and being returned at the returning step, as taught by Moriya.

In a similar field of endeavor, Moriya discloses an image retrieving and delivering system and image retrieving and delivering method. Specifically, Moriya discloses a terminal obtaining unit (8) where the information of a user terminal, in which the image data obtained as the retrieval result is to be received, is obtained, and the terminal information is transmitted simultaneously with the transmission of the retrieval condition and is obtained in the image retrieving and delivering unit (5) through the input control unit (6), which reads on the claimed, "a network retrieving step of retrieving network information present on a network which corresponds to the retrieval key information, the network information thus retrieved being included in the retrieval result information and being returned at the returning step," as disclosed at column 8, lines 29-35.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda to include a terminal obtaining unit (8) where the information of a user terminal, in which the image data obtained as the retrieval result is to be received, is obtained,

and the terminal information is transmitted simultaneously with the transmission of the retrieval condition and is obtained in the image retrieving and delivering unit (5) through the input control unit (6), as taught by Moriya, for the purpose of using the user terminal information as a delivery condition for delivering the retrieval result.

Regarding **claim 27**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Moriya discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 24). Further, Honda discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Honda further discloses a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), which reads on the claimed, "a data base step of storing the retrieval key information, the content identification data, at least one of the address information and the time information and the network information which are included in the retrieval result information returned by the AV information retrieving method according to claim 24 correspondingly to each other," as disclosed at column 4, lines 13-14 (where the claimed "retrieval key information, the content identification data and at least one of the address information and the time information" is included in the disclosed "data which is related to the moving picture").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Moriya to include a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), as taught by Honda, for the purpose of enabling the creation of an index of moving picture information based upon keywords.

Regarding **claim 35**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 33). However, the combination fails to disclose wherein the network information retrieved is included in the retrieval result information and returned to the AV information delivery device through the retrieving computer functioning as the return step. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to include wherein the network information retrieved is included in the retrieval result information and returned to the AV information delivery device through the retrieving computer functioning as the return step, as taught by Moriya.

In a similar field of endeavor, Moriya discloses an image retrieving and delivering system and image retrieving and delivering method. Specifically, Moriya discloses a terminal obtaining unit (8) where the information of a user terminal, in which the image data obtained as the retrieval result is to be received, is obtained, and the terminal information is transmitted simultaneously with the transmission of the retrieval condition and is obtained in the image retrieving and delivering unit (5) through the input control unit (6), which reads on the claimed, "wherein the network information retrieved is included in the retrieval result information and returned to the AV information delivery device through the retrieving computer functioning as the return step," as disclosed at column 8, lines 29-35.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, and Honda to include a terminal obtaining unit (8) where the information of a user terminal, in which the image data obtained as the retrieval result is to be received, is obtained,

and the terminal information is transmitted simultaneously with the transmission of the retrieval condition and is obtained in the image retrieving and delivering unit (5) through the input control unit (6), as taught by Moriya, for the purpose of using the user terminal information as a delivery condition for delivering the retrieval result.

Regarding **claim 38**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Moriya discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 35). Further, Honda discloses an image generating apparatus and method. Honda further discloses a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), which reads on the claimed, "storing the retrieval key information, the content identification data, at least one of the address information and the time information and the network information which are included in the retrieval result information returned from the AV information retrieving device according to claim 35 correspondingly to each other," as disclosed at column 4, lines 13-14 (where the claimed "retrieval key information, the content identification data and at least one of the address information and the time information" is included in the disclosed "data which is related to the moving picture").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Moriya to include a database server (6) for storing data which is related to the moving picture stored in the moving picture server (5), as taught by Honda, for the

purpose of enabling the creation of an index of moving picture information based upon keywords.

Claim 16, 28 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, in view of Kunieda, in view of Honda, in view of Omata, further in view of Strubbe et al (US Patent 5,483,278), hereinafter referred to as Strubbe.

Regarding **claim 16**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Omata discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 14). However, the combination fails to disclose wherein the data base decides a degree of correlation of the retrieval key information and the content identification data in a majority principle intended for all the retrieval result information and stores only the retrieval result information having the high degree of correlation. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known to include wherein the data base decides a degree of correlation of the retrieval key information and the content identification data in a majority principle intended for all the retrieval result information and stores only the retrieval result information having the high degree of correlation, as taught by Strubbe.

In a similar field of endeavor, Strubbe discloses a system and method for finding a movie of interest in a large movie database. Strubbe further discloses description of programming info "DOP" that is analyzed in accordance with "free text" search techniques in order to generate a simple query which is then sorted and stored according to its retrieval value (highest values first), with only the highest scoring DOP records presented to the viewer for judgment, which reads on the claimed, "wherein the data base decides a degree of correlation of the retrieval key information and the

content identification data in a majority principle intended for all the retrieval result information and stores only the retrieval result information having the high degree of correlation," as disclosed in column 5, line 61 through column 6, line 15, and column 6, lines 23-34.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Omata to include description of programming info "DOP" that is analyzed in accordance with "free text" search techniques in order to generate a simple query which is then sorted and stored according to its retrieval value (highest values first), with only the highest scoring DOP records presented to the viewer for judgment, as taught by Strubbe, for the purpose of simplifying the browsing and selection of video abstracts from a database.

Regarding **claim 28**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Omata discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 26). However, the combination fails to disclose wherein a degree of correlation of the retrieval key information and the content identification data is decided in a majority principle intended for all the retrieval result information and only the retrieval result information having the high degree of correlation is stored at the data base step. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known to include wherein a degree of correlation of the retrieval key information and the content identification data is decided in a majority principle intended for all the retrieval result information and only the retrieval result

information having the high degree of correlation is stored at the data base step, as taught by Strubbe.

In a similar field of endeavor, Strubbe discloses a system and method for finding a movie of interest in a large movie database. Strubbe further discloses description of programming info "DOP" that is analyzed in accordance with "free text" search techniques in order to generate a simple query which is then sorted and stored according to its retrieval value (highest values first), with only the highest scoring DOP records presented to the viewer for judgment, which reads on the claimed, "wherein a degree of correlation of the retrieval key information and the content identification data is decided in a majority principle intended for all the retrieval result information and only the retrieval result information having the high degree of correlation is stored at the data base step," as disclosed in column 5, line 61 through column 6, line 15, and column 6, lines 23-34.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Omata to include description of programming info "DOP" that is analyzed in accordance with "free text" search techniques in order to generate a simple query which is then sorted and stored according to its retrieval value (highest values first), with only the highest scoring DOP records presented to the viewer for judgment, as taught by Strubbe, for the purpose of simplifying the browsing and selection of video abstracts from a database.

Regarding **claim 39**, the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda, and Omata discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 37). However, the combination fails to disclose deciding a degree of correlation of the retrieval key information and the content identification data based on a majority principle intended for all the retrieval result information; and storing only the retrieval result information having the high degree of correlation. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known to include deciding a degree of correlation of the retrieval key information and the content identification data based on a majority principle intended for all the retrieval result information; and storing only the retrieval result information having the high degree of correlation, as taught by Strubbe.

In a similar field of endeavor, Strubbe discloses a system and method for finding a movie of interest in a large movie database. Strubbe further discloses description of programming info "DOP" that is analyzed in accordance with "free text" search techniques in order to generate a simple query which is then sorted and stored according to its retrieval value (highest values first), with only the highest scoring DOP records presented to the viewer for judgment, which reads on the claimed, "deciding a degree of correlation of the retrieval key information and the content identification data based on a majority principle intended for all the retrieval result information; and storing only the retrieval result information having the high degree of correlation," as disclosed in column 5, line 61 through column 6, line 15, and column 6, lines 23-34.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada, Kunieda, Honda,

and Omata to include description of programming info "DOP" that is analyzed in accordance with "free text" search techniques in order to generate a simple query which is then sorted and stored according to its retrieval value (highest values first), with only the highest scoring DOP records presented to the viewer for judgment, as taught by Strubbe, for the purpose of simplifying the browsing and selection of video abstracts from a database.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Uesaka (US Patent 6,775,669) discloses a retrieval processing method and apparatus and memory medium storing program for same.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARC DAZENSKI whose telephone number is (571)270-5577. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Harold can be reached on (571)272-7519. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Jeffrey F Harold/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4113